



Head, Eye, Face, & Hearing Protection: **Economy-Priced PPE Costs More Than You Think**

An MSA White Paper

It's not what you spend—it's what you get.

Everybody loves a bargain, yet no discount is worth putting workers at risk.

With PPE, there's a monumental difference between buying cheaper hard hats and face protection and investing in high-quality helmets like the MSA V-Gard® Hard Hat and complete above-the-neck safety solutions.

Purchasing head, eye, face, and hearing protection (HEFH) from a value-added safety partner lets you maximize your PPE budget. That means you get a better, more consistent return on the dollars you spend.

MSA has developed thousands of products, owns hundreds of patents, and has a global reach in the millions—all to keep in motion the mission of worker safety that started more than 100 years ago. In our experience, we know that companies like yours can realize a savings of between 20 and 80 percent.

So, what does this mean for you?

Look at the total value of your purchase instead of only the per-item cost. You'll realize the money you invest in with MSA, including V-Gard Hard Hats and accessories, can pay you back in ways that spending on discount hard hats never could.

- Purpose-built for the type of work
- Tested to perform in some of the toughest of environment imaginable
- Engineered for increased service life
- Designed to meet MSA's strict safety, function, durability, and usability criteria

HEFH PPE Purchasing Checklist

Even if you factor in the initial savings provided through bargain brand PPE, it may in fact equate to larger and potentially extreme costs over the life of the hard hat. Use this pre-purchase checklist when selecting your PPE.

EXAMINE THE QUALITY

There's a reason MSA is known worldwide as "The Safety Company." It's because we harness precision engineering to craft high-quality safety products to help people across the world work safely in their environments. Quality materials and construction mean better durability and a longer wear life. The MSA V-Gard Hard Hat is the #1 Hard Hat for a reason.

WILL WORKERS WEAR IT CONSISTENTLY?

If it's not comfortable, workers will find an excuse not to wear it. That's unsafe and not compliant and could lead to serious injuries. The MSA V-Gard Hard Hat provides superior comfort through our Fas-Trac® III Suspension, in fact in a blind study conducted by MSA the Fas-Trac III Suspension was chosen 92% of the time of the competition. With features like an adjustable nape strap for increased balance and stability, flush suspension tabs to help eliminate compression headaches, integrated perforated sweatband for added cushioning and sweat management, nape strap cushioning to increase airflow, retention and prevent hair pulling, the Fas-Trac III Suspension helps to keep the worker comfortable while getting the job done.

CHECK ITS PERFORMANCE RATING

Every application is different, so every piece of safety equipment must be, too. Whether it's welding, grinding, cutting, or operating heavy machinery, MSA has a range of solutions that helps you protect the worker for the job at hand.

LOOK UNDER THE PROVERBIAL HOOD

PPE needs to work, and it needs to last, even in tough environments. UV inhibitors in our colorant are designed for and tested against some of the harshest environments, for five years of outstanding performance.

WHAT IS IT TESTED TO?

MSA V-Gard Hard Hat is: SEI third-party tested | ANSI and CSA Certified to every optional criteria available | 100% lot tested. As evidence of our commitment to quality, MSA also maintains ISO 9001 quality management system registrations at major production and service locations.

LOOK AT TYPE & SIZING OPTIONS

The MSA V-Gard Hard Hat offers the widest range of options on the market, 3 different shell sizes, 3 different suspension sizes, and 5 different suspension types helping to ensure a proper fit for a wider range of head sizes in a wider range of applications. Our suspensions also feature continuous weave webbing that self-adjusts to the contours of the wearer's head providing a custom fit. Plus, we offer 13 different styles of shell including Type I and Type II, front brim and full brim, the V-Gard GREEN Hard Hat the world's first and only hard hat made from renewable resources, venting options to help reduce heat stress, and more.

DETERMINE THE "COOL FACTOR"

Today's workers want to look as good as they feel in their PPE. The MSA V-Gard Hard Hat offers 27 gloss color options, 10 matte color options and can color match thousands of others. We offer Logo Express and personalization capabilities with second to none turnaround and quality.

EXTRAS, EXTRAS?

Alone, a hard hat is good, including accessories for the job at hand, even better. MSA offers more than 100 accessories designed and tested specifically to attach to our V-Gard Hard Hat to ensure optimal performance.

Benefits of Full-Solution HEFH Protection

It's a simple fact: The safest PPE won't do any good if workers won't wear it. And they won't wear it if it looks ugly or disposable, feels uncomfortable or awkward, and performs subpar or haphazardly. While the initial savings of the bargain brand might be intriguing, that small savings can be quickly outweighed by increased replacement costs, worker dissatisfaction, or even worse. The MSA V-Gard Hard Hats not only protect heads—they help to save lives. And there's no price you can put on that.

Get More Value with MSA

While it's tempting to buy cheaper head, eye, face, and hearing protection, you may be sacrificing quality, performance, and service life. Let the company with more than 100 years of safety experience help you take head, eye, face, and hearing protection to a higher level.



QUALITY

At MSA, premium stands for high-quality materials, durable construction, maximum comfort, and long wear life at a competitive cost.



INNOVATION

We're continually improving the look, fit, and performance of our PPE with options and details like personalization and matte finishes.



COMPLETE SAFETY SOLUTIONS

We design everything to work together, so it's simple and cost-effective to switch, swap, and customize.



WORKER-CENTRIC

MSA is a leader in the industry, manufacturing cutting edge products because we listen to the workforce. MSA is unfailingly committed to hearing what our customers have to say so we can create new, and improve existing, PPE.



AWARD-WINNING SUPPORT

MSA has a vast network of distributors and a dedicated team of customer service professionals who are at the ready to provide help, advice, and guidance when, where, and how you need it.



MSA IS YOUR BEST CHOICE FOR HEFH PROTECTION

Our Mission

MSA's mission is to see to it that men and women may work in safety and that they, their families and their communities may live in health throughout the world.

MSA: WE KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE.

Note: This Bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While product uses and performance capabilities are generally described, the products shall not, under any circumstances, be used by untrained or unqualified individuals. The products shall not be used until the product instructions/user manual, which contains detailed information concerning the proper use and care of the products, including any warnings or cautions, have been thoroughly read and understood. Specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

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